

November 28 - 1918.

My Dearest Marie:-

It is Thanksgiving morning. There is only one thing that could possibly make me any more thankful than I am, and that is to be with you. The war is over. "La Guerre est finie." (I do know a little French) and that is indeed a thing to be greatly thankful for. You and my babies are well and strong and comfortable - and that is another source of thanks - giving. I thank God, from the bottom of my heart, with all sincerity, for the many things I have to cheer me today. I look forward to the one thing remaining, with all the anticipation in the world. I can hardly wait for the time to come, and still I must. It will be the happiest time of my life here, and of yours. Can you picture the meeting we

will have after two years of
separation? Never again for
me! My wife and I, for the
rest of our lives, will live for
each other and with each other,
and where there is any travel-
ling to be done, together we go.
I am convinced enough to take
it for granted dear that you feel
the same towards me as I do to-
wards you. I know I am right
too, dear. I know that you
love me almost as much as I
do you. Not quite as much, for
I consider that impossible. But
we both know that there is
no body on earth that loves the
way we do, and all we want
is to be together. Our separ-
ation is the chief thing I
have against the Kaiser, and

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I will never be satisfied until he
is disposed of.

Shall we sit here without
orders. Of course they are
liable to come at any time so
we keep up hope, but nothing
can be conceived that is
more monotonous and difficing
to undergo, than this long
aimless wait for orders to
move, when the war is all
over. Patience is indeed the
soul of virtue, and I am ac-
quiring more and more respect
for our friend Job, of biblical
fame. He was a patient man
all right, but had nothing on
me.

I sent you several post cards
today by Baccarat, and will
send you more later if I can

find some more good ones. I
am letting the men celebrate
considerably today. I have given
a lot of passes to the Front and
am going to give a lot of late
passes so the men can go to
a show downtown tonight. They
behave very well and have taken
little or no advantage of the
favors I have given them. Once
in awhile one gets a good
bum on, but I have no trouble
with him again. They are cer-
tainly good boys and I like them
more every day.

It is raining again today
and is rather disagreeable, but
not nearly as cold as I expected
it would be at this time of
the year. We were led to believe

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that the weather would be very
severe here but it seems that
we were mistaken somewhat, as
the weather so far has com-
pared very favorably to our
early spring weather.

I have bought some more
things for you dear. I just
couldn't help it for I knew
how much you would like
these and such things are
so cheap over here as com-
pared to the States. That
is the reason I have bought
them, for I know we will
never get over to this country
again.

The sweaters you sent me
dear - the one that is knit
double - is the finest thing

of the sort I have ever had. It
is so warm without being too
heavy. I certainly am grateful
to you for sending it.

Well I must close. Give
my love and kisses to Glad
and my kiddies. God bless
you all - how I love you!

Daddy.

Russel B. Smith

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Amer. E. F. France.